THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 13th September 1946.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Labour legislation in the Province.

* 80 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any legislation in force in this Province regulating the hours of work, etc., in shops and establishments including commercial firms;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative what the nature of such legislation is;

(*c*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the negative, whether the Government have under consideration any legislation on this subject; and

(*d*) whether the Government have any information about such legislation existing in other Provinces and the conventions and recommendations of International Labour Organization in respect of these undertakings?

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH (on behalf of The Hon. Sri V. V. Giri):—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise.

" (*c*) The question of introducing legislation on this subject is under consideration.

" (*d*) The Government are aware of the existence of such legislation in other Provinces such as Bombay, the Punjab, Bengal and Sind. They are also aware of the recommendations of the International Labour Organization."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA:—" Is there not the Shop Assistants Act in force in this Province?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" I want notice, Sir."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA:—" I heard the Hon. the Minister to say that there is no legislation in force in this Province regulating the hours of work, etc. As far as I am aware, there is an Act in force. May I know whether it is not a fact?"

THE HON. SRI K. R. KARANTH:—" The answer put down here, Sir, is 'No.' Evidently what was thought was that the question referred to Provincial legislation. The shop Assistants Act is not a Provincial legislation."